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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,931	10/28/2003	Hideki Morikaku	Q78078	4146
23373	7590	05/13/2004	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			NGUYEN, TRAN N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2834	

DATE MAILED: 05/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/693,931	MORIKAKU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tran N. Nguyen	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-7 are objected to because of the following:

Among claims 1-7, the terms “**which**” “**it**” or “**its**” do not clearly reference for the intended referential subject matter. The applicant is requested to replace “**which**” “**it**” or “**its**” with the clearly established-antecedent-basis subject matter, e.g., in claim 1 “*each of the claw-shaped magnetic thinner toward **its** extreme end forming an poles becoming inclined inside surface*” should be changed to “*each of the claw-shaped magnetic thinner toward **[its]** extreme end **thereof** forming an poles becoming inclined inside surface*”

In claim 1, “*the outer peripheral surface of the backup ring is so shaped as to align*” should be changed to “*the outer peripheral surface of the backup ring is [so] shaped so that said outer peripheral surface in alignment*”

In claims 4-5, the phrase “*the backup ring is produced by shaping a hollow cylindrical piece in such a fashion*” is a method claimed language, which is not given any patentable weight in a product claimed invention.

Therefore, **in claim 4**, the phrase is suggested to change to “*the backup ring is a hollow cylindrical piece having curved outer surface forming an outwardly projecting V-shape ...magnet assemblies.*”

And, **in claim 5**, the phrase is suggested to change to “*the backup ring is a hollow cylindrical piece having slant surfaces alternately located Magnet assemblies.*”

In claim 6, change “*the amount of elastic deformation*” to “*a amount of elastic deformation*”

Appropriate correction is required.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the above formal matters:

Prosecution on the merits is **closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are allowed.

Reason for Allowability

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the primary reason for the allowance is the including, *in combination with other limitations recited in the claims*, the limitations of a claw-pole rotor particularly comprising

a backup ring having an outer peripheral surface for securing the magnet mounting members in position;

wherein each of the claw-shaped magnetic poles has a stopper portion at the extreme end on the inclined inside surface, the claw-shaped magnetic poles with the middle portion of the magnet mounting member placed against the surface of each of the claw-shaped inclined inside magnetic poles and engaged with the stopper portion thereof,

the outer peripheral surface of the backup ring is shaped so that outer peripheral surface in alignment with alternately oppositely inclined inside surfaces of the magnet mounting members of the assembly is fixedly mounted on each of the magnet magnet assemblies mounted on the claw-shaped magnetic poles at basal parts thereof, and

the backup ring is fitted inside the magnet assemblies mounted on the claw-shaped magnetic poles such that the backup ring aligns with the inclined inside surfaces of the magnet mounting members.

Comparing to the prior-art of the record, none of the prior art references of the record, either stand alone or in combination, has taught or suggest the above-mentioned features in combination with other limitations recited in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

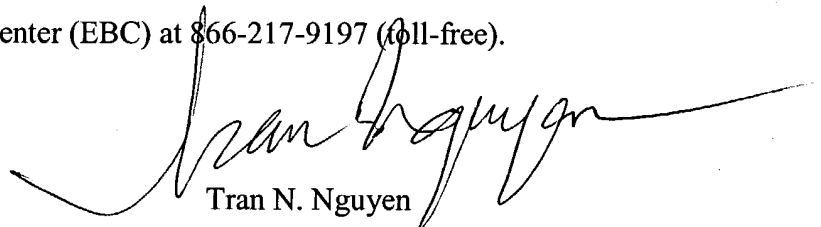
fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tran N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2030. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (571)-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tran N. Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tran N. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834